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Interim Final Rules for Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Comment On: EBSA-2010-0018-0002

Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services under Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Amendment

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Comment on FR Doc # 2011-19684

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General Comment

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
United States Department of Health and Human Services

Dear Secretary Sibelius,

I wish to express my concern regarding the amendment to the interim final regulation (CMS-992-IFC2) which exempts

some religious institutions from providing coverage for contraception as preventive care. This proposed

exemption is troubling because it is based on a serious misreading of the freedom of religion.

I urge you and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to carefully consider the motivations of those who oppose this guideline in conjunction with your motivations, which would appear to be to enhance the public good.

The HHS can listen to the voices of the majority of Americans who believe choices related to contraception should not be dictated by employers. I urge you to revoke the proposed exemption and protect the individual freedoms of all those who would seek access to these important healthcare services, regardless of where they work.

Sincerely,

Balazs Vandor